

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of February 8, 2006 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendments

Page 1 of the specification has been updated: the first line of Page 1 of the specification has been deleted and replaced by a paragraph entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications".

Independent claims 1, 19 and 38 are amended to respectively incorporate the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 17, 36 and 53 and to consistently recite "drive circuitry";

dependent claim 9, 28 and 45 are cancelled;

dependent claims 17, 36 and 53 are amended to specify that the mass of solid material of the heater elements which is heated is less than two nanograms. Support for this amendment can be found at page 36, lines 11-18 of the present specification;

dependent claims 18 and 37 are amended to delete the term "substantially" from the recitations "each heater element is substantially covered";

dependent claim 23 is cancelled; and

dependent claims 2-8, 10-16, 20-22, 24-27, 29-35, 39-44, 46-52 and 54 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of pending claims 17, 36 and 53 under the conditions stated in the Office Action.

Regarding Claim Objections

Regarding "circuitry"

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendments to claims 1, 19 and 38 to consistently recite "drive circuitry", provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding "said part"

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection based on the above-described amendment cancelling claims 9, 28 and 45.

Regarding "substantially"

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendments to claims 18 and 37 to delete the term "substantially", provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding "support"

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection based on the above-described amendment cancelling claim 23.

Regarding Specification Objection

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection based on the above-described amendment cancelling claims 9, 28 and 45 which recite the terminology cited by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) and 103(a) Rejections

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the art rejections of the claims over Moon et al. (US 6,761,433), Silverbrook (US 6,019,457), Anagnostopoulos et al. (US 6,502,925) and Campbell et al. (US 4,870,433), based on the above-described amendment to independent claims 1, 19 and 38 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 17, 36 and 53 and for at least the reasons given by the Examiner in the Allowable Subject Matter of the Office Action.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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